

WEEKLY WIRE

News from East Asia and Pacific

Japan

First Spectrum Detected with Japanese Band 10 Receiver

On November 10 (Chilean Time), Band 10 receiver manufactured by the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NOAJ) successfully received radio waves from a celestial object for the first time in a test observation at the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA) Operations Support Facility (OSF) at 2,900m above sea level in Chile. The target object of this observation is radio source Sagittarius B2 (Sgr B2), which is an object with strong emission, located at near the center of our galaxy. The details can be obtained at:

http://alma.mtk.nao.ac.jp/e/news/info/2012/112110_3.html

Korea

Institute for Basic Science (IBS) Call for Applications

IBS invites applications for the Directorship in the designated research areas of mathematics, theoretical physics, and science of global and regional environmental changes. IBS was created in 2011 to establish 50 globally visible research centers by 2017 by allocating \$3 billion Korean Government fund from 2012 to 2015. The details of the application, with deadline of January 31, 2013, can be obtained at:

<http://www.ibs.re.kr/gtboard/hbd/hbdread.jsp?pagenum=1&c=&t=&boardid=27&typeID=5&tableName=NOTICE01&pc=&seqno=17>

New Zealand

Engineering Students Get 1,000 Extra Places

Tertiary Education Minister Steven Joyce has gained 1,000 extra places for engineering students at universities and polytechnics next year. Mr. Joyce has announced that the Government will pay directly for 700 extra engineering places and that institutions have agreed to “reprioritize” their resources to provide a further 300. The increases are a result of annual negotiations between the institutions and the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) over investment plans. The details can be obtained at: http://www.nzherald.co.nz/science/news/article.cfm?c_id=82&objectid=10849355

Singapore

US Big Data Company Joins Genome Institute of Singapore

The Agency for Science, Technology and Research’s (A*STAR) Genome Institute of Singapore (GIS) announced on November 28, 2012 the launch of a research collaboration with Appistry, a leading US-based provider of high-performance computing and analytics for managing and storing “big data.” The details can be obtained at: <http://www.a-star.edu.sg/Media/News/PressReleases/tabid/828/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/1746/Default.aspx>